

Message Text

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13

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAM-01

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R 141300Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY MADRID

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1077

INFO USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN

USAFE, RAMSTEIN

US MISSION NATO 528

CINCUSNAVEUR LONDON

16TH AF TORREJON

JUS/MAAG SPAIN

COMNAVACTS ROTA

AMEMBASSY LISBON

C O N F I D E N T I A L MADRID 1071

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, SP

SUBJ: BASE NEGOTIATIONS: PRESS REACTION

1. FEB 13 EDITION OF EVENING DAILY "INFORMACIONES" HEADLINES
ARTICLE ON NEGOTIATIONS WRAP-UP: "TOWARD NEW AND CLOSER
ASSOCIATION WITH USA", WITH SUB-HEADLINE "ARE AMERICANS
LEAVING TORREJON".

2. REPORT CONTAINS TEXT OF JOINT COMMUNIQUE INTRODUCED
BY FOLLOWING LEAD PARAS:

A. QUOTE: IT APPEARS THAT THE SPANISH PROPOSAL FOR
OBTAINING IN OUR RELATIONS WITH THE U.S. A FORMULA BEYOND
SIMPLY FRIENDSHIP IS PREVAILING. YESTERDAY ENDED IN
MADRID THE THIRD SESSION OF NEGOTIATIONS UNDER WAY TO
DEFINE MUTUAL RELATIONS ONCE THE 1970 AGREEMENT EXPIRES,
AND THE CORRESPONDING POSITIONS DERIVING FROM THEM.

B. AN OFFICIAL JOINT NOTE, COUCHED IN CAUTIOUS AND
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NEBULOUS DIPLOMATIC LANGUAGE, SUGGESTS IT. TEXTUALLY IT

AFFIRMS THAT THE CONVERSATIONS CONSIDERED THE POSSIBILITY OF A NEW AND CLOSER ASSOCIATION, WITH A VIEW TOWARD FULL COOPERATION IN WESTERN DEFENSE. IT IS RUMORED THAT THE USA FORCES MIGHT TERMINATE UTILIZATION OF THE BASE AT TORREJON DE ARDOZ, UNQUOTE.

3. COMMENT: THIS PRESS SPECULATION CONCERNING TORREJON IS REMINISCENT OF SIMILAR SPECULATION BEGINNING SOME WEEKS BEFORE FIRST ROUND LAST NOVEMBER AND WHICH ULTIMATELY PRESAGED WITH CONSIDERABLE ACCURACY SOME OF PROPOSALS AND SUBSTANTIVE ARGUMENTS TABLED BY SPANISH DURING THE FIRST ROUND. PATTERN IS FAMILIAR, AND IF REPEATED IN WEEKS AHEAD COULD PROVIDE SOME INDICATION OF FOCUS OF SPANISH ATTENTION WITH REGARD TO ITEM THREE OF AGENDA WHICH THEY HAVE AGREED TO ADDRESS. THIS WOULD APPEAR ALL THE MORE LIKELY, GIVEN ROVIRA'S DISSATISFACTION WITH PROGRESS MADE ON ITEM ONE.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, NEGOTIATIONS, MILITARY BASES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 FEB 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ellisoob
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975MADRID01071
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750055-0809
From: MADRID
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750242/aaaablmo.tel
Line Count: 79
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ellisoob
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 11 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <11 JUN 2003 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <28 OCT 2003 by ellisoob>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: BASE NEGOTIATIONS: PRESS REACTION
TAGS: MARR, SP, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006